

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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COME-00 EUR-12 EA-06 MC-02 ACDA-05 /038 W

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R 111836Z APR 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 6494

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 09278

EXCON

E.O. 11652 XGDS1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM

SUBJECT: COCOM LIST REVIEW: IL 1568 - POTENTIOMETERS

REFS: A. COCOM DOC REV (74) 1560/2, 1562/2, 1568/6

B. COCOM DOC REV (74) 1568/W.P.2

C. COCOM DOC REV (74) 1568/5

SUMMARY: MOST OF THE DISCUSSION ON THIS ITEM WAS CONFUSED BY EXTENSIVE AND OBTUSE ARGUMENTATION BY THE FRENCH DELEGATION. A DEFINITION FOR A PRECISION POTENTIOMETER AND THE UK PROPOSED CHANGE TO (G)(1) WERE ACCEPTED BY ALL DELEGATIONS. THE UK NOTE TO THE WHOLE ITEM WAS AMENDED AND ACCEPTED BY MOST DELEGATIONS AND THE UK DROPPED THEIR PROPOSAL IN REF A CONCERNING MULTI-TURN TRIMMER POTENTIOMETERS. ACTION REQUESTED: LIFT AD REFS AND ACCEPT UK PROPOSAL FOR AN AE TO THE WHOLE ITEM.

1. APRIL 8 AND 9 DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM WAS BASED ON THE UK PROPOSAL TO CHANGE SUBITEM (G), ADD A NOTE TO EXCLUDE MULTI-TURN TRIMMER POTENTIOMETERS FROM COVERAGE AND TO ADD AN AE NOTE FOR ALL SUBITEMS TO 1568 TO PERMIT CIVIL EXPORTS.

2. THE UK PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE LINEARITY FIGURE IN
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(G)(1) WAS ACCEPTED BY ALL DELEGATIONS (THE US AND

FRENCH AD REF). A LENGTHY DISCUSSION ENSUED ON THE UK PROPOSED HEADING CHANGE (INSERT THE WORD "PRECISION") AND THE ACCOMPANYING DEFINITION FOR PRECISION POTENTIOMETERS (POTS). A TWG WAS CONVENED FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMING UP WITH AN ACCEPTABLE DEFINITION. THE RESULTS OF THE TWG EFFORTS APPEAR IN REFERENCE B.

3. THE TWG REPORT WAS PRESENTED TO THE FULL COMMITTEE AND WAS ACCEPTED BY ALL DELEGATIONS (US AND FRANCE AD REF.--ITALY OPEN-MINDED). THE UK THEN REQUESTED A VOTE ON THEIR PROPOSAL TO INSERT THE WORD "PRECISION" IN THE HEADING TO (G). THE NETHERLANDS REQUESTED THE INTRODUCTION OF THE WORD "ROTARY" BETWEEN "PRECISION" AND "POTENTIOMETERS" SINCE THIS ITEM WAS ORIGINALLY DEVELOPED TO COVER THOSE POTS DESIGNED AS MOTOR DRIVEN CONTROLS FOR MISSILE GUIDANCE SYSTEMS (SEE REF C).

4. THE US DELEGATION POINTED OUT THAT IT HAD NO QUARREL WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE WORD "ROTARY" BUT IT FELT THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED TO INCLUDE ONLY MOTOR DRIVEN POTS. THERE ARE MANUALLY CONTROLLED LABORATORY POTS WHICH ARE PRECISE AND SHOULD ALSO BE COVERED.

5. THE CANADIAN DELEGATION VOICED THEIR FEELING THAT THE WORD ROTARY COULD BE INTERPRETED TO REFER TO EITHER THE DRIVE MECHANISM, THE WIPER MOVEMENT, OR BOTH.

6. IN AN ATTEMPT TO SATISFY BOTH THE US AND CANADIAN DELEGATIONS, THE NETHERLANDS OFFERED THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT: "PRECISION POTENTIOMETERS WITH A ROTARY DRIVE AND WIPER MOVEMENT". ALL DELEGATIONS COULD ACCEPT THAT DEFINITION (US AD REF) EXCEPT THE FRENCH WHICH RESERVED.

7. THE FRENCH STATED THEIR RESERVE WAS BASED UPON A CONCERN FOR LINEAR DRIVE POTENTIOMETERS, REFERRING TO IEEE PROCEEDINGS ARTICLE BY PROFESSOR LATHWAIT (UK) DATED JULY 1972. A LENGTHY TECHNICAL DISCUSSION ENSUED PRINCIPALLY BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND FRENCH EXPERTS LEAVING ALL DELEGATIONS CONFUSED. FYI - REFER TO RECORD OF DISCUSSION. US EXPERTS FEEL THIS IS ANOTHER FRENCH AT-CONFIDENTIAL

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TEMPT TO SMOKE SCREEN OR UNNECESSARILY CONFUSE THE ISSUE.

8. AS A RESULT OF THE CONFUSING TECHNICAL DISCUSSION, THE UK REQUESTED A VOTE ON THEIR ORIGINAL PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE ONLY THE WORD "PRECISION". ALL DELEGATIONS ACCEPTED THAT PROPOSAL EXCEPT THE NETHERLANDS WHICH RESERVED AND REQUESTED OTHER DELEGATIONS TO RECONSIDER PRIOR TO ROUND III.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 OECD PARIS 09278

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9. AS A RESULT OF THE CONSENSUS ON THE ABOVE PROPOSALS, THE UK WITHDREW PARAGRAPH (B) TO THEIR NEWLY REVISED PROPOSAL (SEE REF A).

10. THE UK REVISED THEIR PROPOSAL FOR AN AE NOTE TO THE WHOLE OF 1568 BY EXCLUDING THOSE ITEMS LISTED IN SUB-ITEM (L). THE US EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR RELEASING UNDER AE EQUIPMENTS IN SUBITEMS (G) AND (K) EXPLAINING THE MANY STRATEGIC USES FOR AT LEAST A/D AND D/A CONVERTERS. THE UK THEN FURTHER AMENDED THEIR PROPOSAL TO EXCLUDE SUBITEM (K) FROM APPLICABILITY AND REQUESTED FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE FOR SUBITEM (G). GERMANY, FRANCE, AND THE US (SYMPATHETIC) RESERVED ON THIS UK NOTE WITH JAPAN AND CANADA ACCEPTING AND THE NETHERLANDS WERE OPEN-MINDED. FYI - US EXPERTS FEEL WE ARE ON WEAK FOOTING ON SUBITEM (G) AND BELIEVE THAT INCLUDING IT UNDER THE AE NOTE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. THE UK'S AND THE OTHER DELEGATIONS' ACCEPTANCE OF THE US DESIRE NOT TO INCLUDE (K) WAS THE IMPORTANT SUBITEM OF THE TWO. END FYI.

11. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT ONLY SUBITEMS (G), (K), AND (L) WERE ADDRESSED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE UK AE NOTE

SINCE THE US TEAM WAS UNINSTRUCTED ON THE REMAINING
SUBITEMS.
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12. ACTION REQUESTED: ACCEPT THE UK PROPOSED HEADING
CHANGE (WITH OR WITHOUT THE REFERENCE TO ROTARY)
AS WELL AS THE ACCOMPANYING DEFINITION WORKED OUT IN
THE TWG. LIFT AD REF ON THE UK PROPOSAL TO (G)(1) AND
ACCEPT THE AE NOTE AS IT RELATES TO SUBITEM (G).
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